

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A CRYPTOGRAPHICALLY ASSISTED  
COMMERCIAL NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGNED TO FACILITATE IDEA  
SUBMISSION, PURCHASE AND LICENSING AND INNOVATION TRANSFER**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5           The present invention is a method and apparatus for effectuating bilateral  
commerce in ideas. The present invention is both an originator- (400) and user-driven (300)  
online commercial network system designed to facilitate idea submission, purchase and  
licensing and is easily adapted to business-to-business transfers of innovation as well as  
consumer-to-business transfers of innovation. The invention allows originators of ideas to  
10 communicate nondisclosing synopses of ideas globally to potential users, for users  
conveniently to search for relevant ideas and for users potentially to bind an originator (400)  
to a limited duration license (120a) granting user the exclusive right to access and consider  
confidentially the originator's fully disclosed idea (130a). The invention also allows users  
(300) to communicate confidentially or nonconfidentially unsolved problems or needs  
15 globally to potential originators, for originators conveniently to search for relevant unsolved  
problems or needs (100b) and for originators to submit and communicate confidentially  
proposed solutions (130b) to the soliciting user.

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